GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:265
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2003
FOOD/REFRESHMENT AND OTHER STALLS AT STATIONS
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are adequate number of refreshment/food stalls and book/magazine stalls at various stations of the South Central Railway and other stations in the country;

(b) if not, the corrective measures taken / to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the criteria adopted for allotment of food/refreshment and book stalls at every station alongwith the time period for which these are allotted; and

(d) the steps being taken to bring about transparency in allotment of shops etc. and food outlets at various railway stations to create adequate competition and to check the quality of food stuffs sold in these stalls?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS(SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 265 BY SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAHTO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 07.08.03 REGARDING FOOD/REFRESHMENT AND OTHER STALLS AT STATIONS.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The requirement of catering/vending and bookstall facilities is decided keeping in view the needs of the traveling public, which mainly depend on the volume of passenger traffic, dealt with at a particular station without causing congestion. At present the tenure of licence is for five years.

(d) With a view to bring about transparency in allotment, the award of major catering units is made through a two packet open tender system by calling applications through press notification from reputed and experienced caterers. As far as award of licence in case of catering units other than major units is concerned, the same is awarded by calling applications through press notifications from reputed caterers through an elaborate selection criteria. The allotment of bookstalls to unemployed graduates, their cooperatives/associations/partnership enterprises, the registered cooperative societies of actual workers/vendors engaged in the bookstalls at railway stations is made by calling of applications from them by giving adequate publicity in newspapers. Regular inspections and quality checks are conducted at various levels to ensure quality of food. Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation has been set up to upgrade and professionalise catering services on Indian Railways.